



State of California
The Natural Resources Agency
California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE)

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

PROJECT TITLE	Crest Forest Fire Safe Demonstration Sites		
PROJECT LOCATION	T2N, R4W, Sections 20, 21, 23, SBBM	COUNTY	San Bernardino
LEAD AGENCY	California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE)		
CONTACT	Henry Herrera, Unit Forester		
ADDRESS	3800 N. Sierra Way San Bernardino, CA 92405	PHONE	(909)475-8091

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The Mountain Rim Fire Safe Council's (MRFSC) Crest Forest Fire Safe Demonstration Sites Project will assist a minimum of three homeowners who are in need of defensible space, or have received a citation under State (PRC 4291) and/or local (San Bernardino County Code Section 23.0304) defensible space clearance requirements, by creating defensible space on their property and using the sites as defensible space demonstration sites. The addresses of the demonstration houses are 210 Wylerhorn Dr. Crestline; 24348 Lake Gregory Drive, Crestline; 22850 Azalea Lane, Valley of Enchantment; and 412 Long Beach Ave, Cedarpines Park, CA. An open house event will be held by the MRFSC to provide tours of the properties and defensible space information and education. The MRFSC will advertise the demonstration sites at the MRFSC's public events/meetings, and in local newspapers and their website. In cooperation with the homeowners, the MRFSC will provide resources to perform the necessary fuel reduction work. The vegetation removed for defensible space or hazard abatement will be cut using chainsaws or hand tools, hand carried to the curbside for onsite chipping or hauled away. All vehicles will remain on existing roads. The project area is composed of timber and understory shrubs. Vegetation to be removed will mostly be composed of small diameter trees (<12"), branches, grass and shrubs. Elevation is approximately 5,000 feet. This project will take place within the San Bernardino forest and serve the MRFSC communities from Crestline to Green Valley Lake which have approximately 7,400 habitable structures. The properties are each about 1/4 acre in size.

EXEMPTION STATUS

- ☒ Categorical Exemption Type/Section: Class 4 §15304 Minor Alterations to Land
☐ Statutory Exemption (state code section):
☐ Ministerial (§21080(b)(1); 15268)
☐ Declared Emergency (§21080(b)(3); 15269(a))
☐ Emergency Project (§21080(b)(4); 15269(b)(c))

REASONS PROJECT IS EXEMPT

15304 (i): Fuel management activities within 30 feet of structures to reduce the volume of flammable vegetation, provided that the activities will not result in the taking of endangered, rare, or threatened plant or animal species or significant erosion and sedimentation of surface waters. This exemption shall apply to fuel management activities within 100 feet of a structure if the public agency having fire protection responsibility for the area has determined that 100 feet of fuel clearance is required due to extra hazardous fire conditions.

Field review by Tim Morin, RPF #2505, confirmed that no exceptions apply which would preclude the use of a Notice of Exemption for this project. The RPF has concluded that no significant environmental impact would occur to aesthetics, agriculture and forestland/timberland, air quality, biological resources, cultural resources, geology and soils, greenhouse gas emissions, hazards and hazardous materials, hydrology and water quality, land use planning, mineral resources, noise, population and housing, public services, recreation, transportation/traffic, or to utilities and service systems. Documentation of the environmental review completed by the RPF is kept on file at CAL FIRE's BDU Headquarters in San Bernardino.

DATE RECEIVED FOR FILING

APR 22 2016

STATE CLEARINGHOUSE

Helge Eng, Deputy Director
California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection

11/21/16
Date